BARBADOS TOURISM MARKETING INC.

BARBADOS MINISTRY of TOURISM

Health and Safety Protocols for Watersports Operators

Introduction

The following guidelines are designed to provide owners and operators of jet ski/ watersports operations with clear actionable standard operating procedures to reduce exposure of themselves and their passengers to COVID-19 while operating these vehicles.

The goal of the Ministry of Health and Wellness is therefore to ensure a comprehensive understanding and provide for the appropriate management of the risks associated with COVID-19 exposure. This is done in an effort to reduce exposure in the taxi, private car and minivan industry. In the context of the COVID-19 crisis, the department will therefore:

Review, strengthen, and monitor the Health & Safety Policies and processes of the Jet Ski/ Watersports industry re:

- Personal Hygiene (Including Hand Washing, Respiratory Hygiene)
- Cleaning of contact Surfaces
- Infection Prevention & Control - Use of Standard Precautions (PPE), physical distancing etc
- Monitoring of Illness among Employees

To Ensure Employees and Customers Are Protected, Jet Ski Operators Should Employ The Following Protocols.

I

Please note that the wearing of face masks should be discouraged while on the water for all water activities due to the possibility of face masks posing a drowning hazard.

II

Masks should however, be worn at check – in and other on shore areas.

III

Where appropriate operators should ensure that passengers are pre scanned by utilizing an infrared handheld temperature gun prior to boarding the vessel.

IV

Watersports Operators are asked to place tape or markers at the entrance where patrons are expected to stand when they are waiting to purchase tickets, engage in an activity or board vessel.

V

Watersports Operators are expected to sanitize the contact points of their equipment after each use. Dive mask and snorkels must be immersed in a 1:99 bleach solution for two minutes to be sanitized after every use.

VI

Pleasure craft operprators are to ensure that all countertops are cleaned and disinfected at the start of each shift and at regular intervals after customer interaction and throughout the day.

VII

Watersports Operators are requested not to share reusable pricing sheets or menus with guests. As an alternative, information can be posted on signage boards or via digital media (e.g. Instagram, digital app). Additionally, disposable pricing sheets can be shared but cannot be reused.

VIII

Watersports Operators are to limit the number of passengers per water sports vessel to allow for physical distancing of at least 3ft. per passenger where safely possible.

IX Watersports Operators are required to spray guests' hands with a sanitizer containing at least 70% alcohol immediately before boarding or engaging in a water sports activity.

X Ensure handrails are available for boarding vessels to limit the exposure of crew to helping individuals onto the vessel.

XI Watersports Operators are required to sanitize vessels after each excursion with appropriate sanitizers.

XII All Watersports Operators should wash hands after every trip with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 70% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

XIII Watersports Operators must avoid touching their eyes, nose, or mouth.

XIV Watersports Operators must avoid contact with people who are sick.

XV No two persons may sit side by side unless they are immediate members of the same household.

XVI Physical distancing protocol of at least 3ft. between passengers are to be strictly adhered to when boarding.

XVII Passengers are required to board by utilizing staggered loading.

XVIII Watersports Operators are requested not to share reusable pricing sheets or menus with guests.

XVIX Customers should be encouraged to use their own pens to sign forms. Where this is not possible, pens are to be sanitized periodically.

XX Watersports Operators are discouraged from taking photos using guests' cameras or phones.

XXI

Operators are required to maintain social distancing protocols of at least 3ft. between each person on the vessel (Individuals in the same party (family and friends) do not need to adhere to strict physical distancing requirements).

General Hygiene For Watersports Operators

I

Water sports Operators should minimize personal contact; hugging and shaking hands should be strictly avoided. Social distancing must always be maintained.

II

Water sports Operators should avoid guest contact and wash hands for at least 20 seconds immediately after any customer interaction. An alcohol-based (at least 70%) hand sanitizer may be used if handwashing is not available.

III

Water sports Operators are encouraged to have tissues and hand sanitizer available for passengers.

IV

Companies must ensure that printed information from an approved source such the Government Information Service and the Ministry of Health and Wellness is posted on the vessel or in the vicinity of boarding vessel on the spread of COVID-19.

V

It is recommended for all staff to undergo health and safety training in accordance with the protocols of the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

VI

A staff Health and Safety training log must be strictly maintained.

VII

All Water sports Operators must maintain a log of their daily cleaning schedule.

General Hygiene

- High-touch surfaces (phones, wallets) must be cleaned and disinfected after every use;

Social & Physical Distancing

- Operators should stay at least 3 feet away from other Operators where possible;

COVID-19 Symptoms

a) Persons who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 i.e. fever, cough, or shortness of breath prior to commencement of duty should remain at home and follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Wellness immediately;

b) Persons who begin to exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 i.e. fever, cough, or shortness of breath, while on duty should follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Wellness immediately;

c) Persons who are well but who have a sick family member exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 should stay away from work and follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

Cleaning and Disinfecting of Equipment and Public Facilities Before and After Use

At a minimum, all equipment must be cleaned and disinfected before being used by new customers. Special attention should be given to commonly touched surfaces. Staff responsible for cleaning equipment must ensure that cleaning and disinfecting procedures are followed consistently and correctly, including the provision of adequate ventilation when chemicals are in use.

I

When cleaning and disinfecting, individuals should wear disposable gloves compatible with the products being used as well as any other PPEs required according to the product manufacturer's instructions. Use of a disposable gown when cleaning is also recommended, if available.

II

For hard non-porous surfaces within the facility such as sanitary ware and grab handles, clean with detergent or soap and water if the surfaces are visibly dirty, prior to disinfectant application. For disinfection of hard, non-porous surfaces, appropriate disinfectants are antimicrobial/anti-viral (destroying or inhibiting the growth of microorganisms and especially pathogenic microorganisms) products. Cleaners should follow the manufacturer's instructions for concentration, application method, and contact time for all cleaning and disinfection products.

III

Cleaners may also use diluted household bleach solutions prepared according to the manufacturer's label for disinfection, if appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

IV

Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.

V After cleaning, use products that are approved by the Ministry of Health and Wellness for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 and that are suitable for equipment surface.

VI Gloves and any other disposable PPE used for cleaning and disinfecting should be removed and disposed of safely after cleaning; **WASH HANDS** immediately after removal of gloves and other PPE with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

VII If a disposable gown was not worn, work uniforms/clothes worn during cleaning and disinfecting should be laundered afterwards using the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely. Wash hands after handling laundry.

VIII All touch points such as beach chairs, jet skis, banana boats, other motorized and non- motorized equipment and beach umbrellas are to be disinfected prior to handing over to customer.

IX All Operators must maintain a log of their daily cleaning schedule.

General Tourism Guidelines

Special Considerations For Companies:

- Employees are expected to work staggered start and finish times to reduce congestion and contact at all times;
- Employees should stay at least 3 feet away from other staff (lunchroom, bathroom, corridors, booths);
- It is recommended that Employees should stay on-site once they have entered the workplace.

Contact Tracing

Operators should maintain a log of every passenger including passenger name, contact details, times collected, location drop off and collection (if applicable).

Cleaning and Disinfecting of Equipment and Public Facilities Before and After Use

At a minimum, all equipment and public facilities must be cleaned and disinfected before being used by new customers. Special attention should be given to commonly touched surfaces in the public facility. Staff responsible for cleaning equipment and facilities must ensure that cleaning and disinfecting procedures are followed consistently and correctly, including the provision of adequate ventilation when chemicals are in use.

Doors and windows should remain open when cleaning the facility. When cleaning and disinfecting, individuals should wear disposable gloves compatible with the products being used as well as any other PPE required according to the product manufacturer's instructions. Use of a disposable gown when cleaning is also recommended, if available.

I

For hard non-porous surfaces within the facility such as sanitary ware, sinks, doors and windows, and grab handles, clean with detergent or soap and water if the surfaces are visibly dirty, prior to disinfectant application. For disinfection of hard, non-porous surfaces, appropriate disinfectants are antimicrobial **(destroying or inhibiting the growth of microorganisms and especially pathogenic microorganisms)** products. Cleaners should follow the manufacturer's instructions for concentration, application method, and contact time for all cleaning and disinfecting products.

II

Operators and Drivers may also use **diluted household bleach solutions** prepared according to the manufacturer's label for disinfection, if appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

III

Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol base may also be used.

IV

After cleaning, use products that are approved by the Ministry of Health and Wellness for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 and that are suitable for equipment surface.

V Gloves and any other disposable PPE used for cleaning and disinfecting should be removed and disposed of after cleaning; **WASH HANDS** immediately after removal of gloves and other PPE with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

VI If a disposable gown was not worn, work uniforms/clothing worn during cleaning and disinfecting should be laundered afterwards using the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.

VII Cleaners to maintain a daily cleaning log.

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